

Food & Beverage Service at McDowell Mountain Ranch Park/Aquatic Center
Written questions received since August 4, 2006
August 16, 2006

1. If there are only 157 parking spaces, where will everyone park?

Answer: There are additional parking spaces located at the library, school and adjacent athletic fields that could serve as ancillary parking. While daily attendance may reach 1500 to 3000 during peak season, many of these users will rotate through the facility throughout the day and will not all be there at the same time.

At Eldorado Park, the parking lot is shared among the pool patrons, park patrons and the Boys & Girls Club, and typically has adequate parking even during the busy times. For this reason we really do not foresee parking being a daily problem. Staff will be required to park in the back lot or offsite during peak times to reserve closer areas for the public.

2. I was told that approximately 1500 people would be going to the park on a daily basis in the summer and up to 3000 a day on weekends. Are these figures correct?

Answer: These numbers were based on the size of the facility, and comparative attendance numbers averaged from both Cactus and Eldorado Aquatic Centers.

3. Could you go into more detail about people being bused into the park. Will it be high school kids for swimming practice, and how many schools will be using the facilities?

Answer: Desert Mtn. High School and Norte Dame Preparatory will practice at MMR. Desert Mtn. will probably bus their kids with one bus. Notre Dame's coach mentioned that he would most likely require his students to run over and parents will pick up. In any event, most kids will either be bused, carpooled or dropped off.

4. Who else may be bused in?

Answer: Synchro will practice at MMR in the afternoon, but those kids will be dropped off by parents and only a few students are able to drive. During the summer months, buses/vans will drop off city groups, child care groups and various day camps from throughout the valley. We don't think there would more than two buses at a time.

5. Is there a specific intent/use for the extra drain (nearest the interior doorway)?

Answer: Ice machine.

6. Will there be keys to the kitchen, or entry keypads?

Answer: Forthcoming.

7. What items did the other concession stands sell?

Answer: Typical "snack bar" items: Pretzels, mini pizzas, hot dogs, nachos, snow cones, candy, bags of chips, drinks, etc. Keep in mind that only Cactus has a "full" concession area and the other two locations are restricted to pre-packaged items, including drinks.

8. Were the concession stands open every day?

Answer: Concessions are supposed to be open every day during the summer months.

9. What were the hours of operation?

Answer: At Cactus, the concessions were supposed to be open at 10:00a Monday through Friday, although this didn't always happen. At Eldo and Chaparral, concession hours are 1:00p to 5:00p or 6:00p during the week (depending on the facility). Weekends at all locations are 1:00p to 6:00p.

10. Were customers allowed to bring in coolers?

Answer: At this time people are allowed to bring their own coolers.

11. We are concerned because in 2005 all 3 pools had 225,000 people attend from May through September. The total for the 3 pools in concessions was only \$13,626.00. Why does the City of vendor feel this figure is so low?

Answer: The City's opinion is there was a lack of marketing, poor quality signage, inconsistent hours, seemingly high prices. Menu items, while popular to kids, were restricted to mostly "junk food" items (also, see the answer to Question #7). For this reason, the City is trying to explore a different concept for food and beverage service (at least in the locations where a full concession is available) in order to broaden the menu offerings and thereby target a larger customer base. We are hopeful that a vendor will be willing to test those ideas.